THE Lions' Pride
OF SAINT LEO UNIVERSITY

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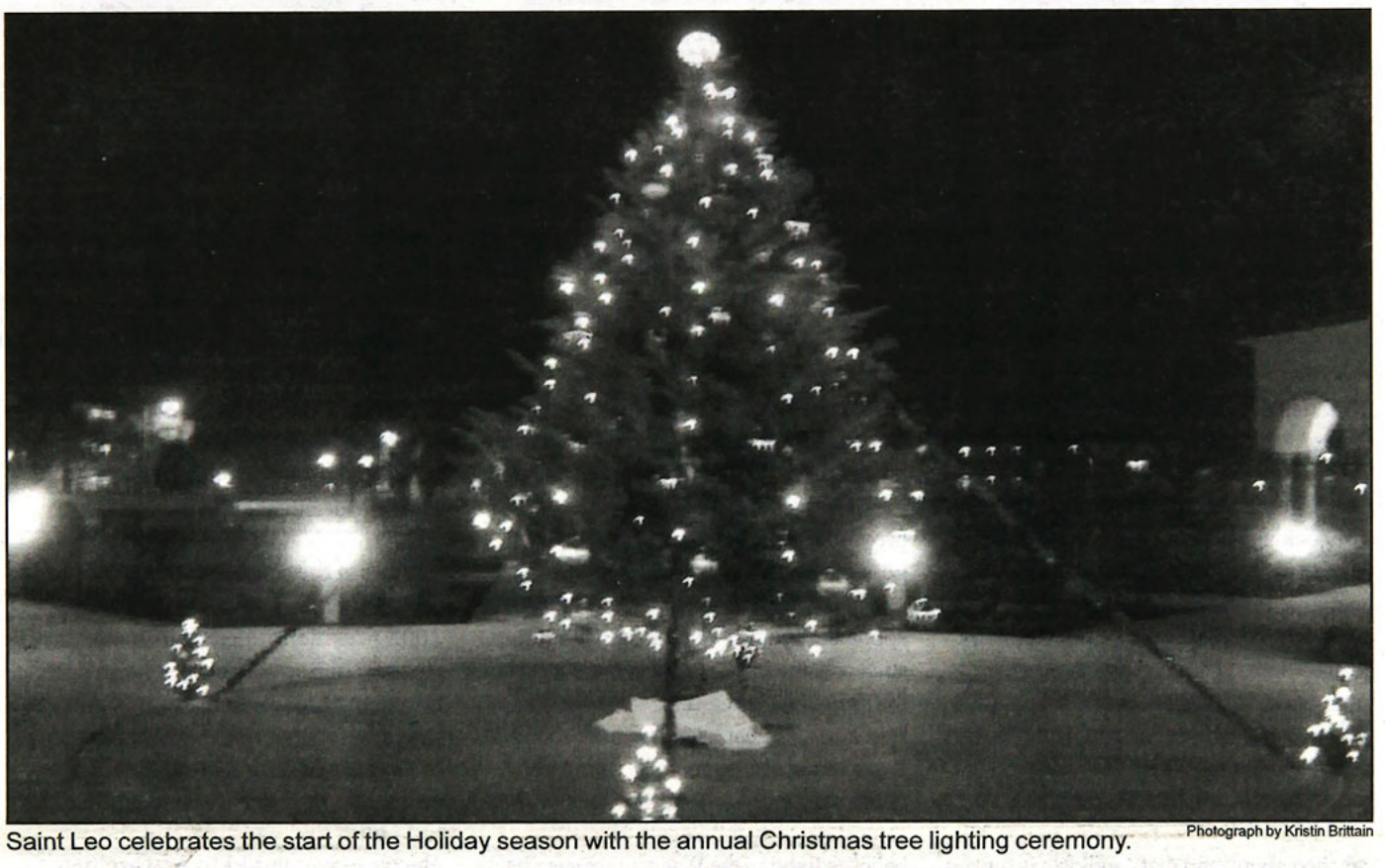
Saint Leo's own winter wonderland

BY EFSTRATIOS KOSMAS
Lions' Pride Staff Writer



Saint Leo celebrates the start of the Holiday season with the annual Christmas tree lighting ceremony. Photograph by Kristin Brittain

Tuesday, November 27 was quite an eventful day at Saint Leo University as it marked the start of the Christmas festivities.

Beginning at 7:30 p.m., students and gatherers from the San Antonio and Dade City area assembled in the Saint Leo Abbey to hear the infamous Florida Orchestra Brass Quintet. The Quintet consisted of a principal trumpet (Robert Smith), assistant principal trumpet (Kenneth Brown), assistant principal horn (Brandon Beck), principal trombone(Dwight Decker), and principal tuba (William Mickelsen). With this wonderful combination, they brought forth a show that struck joy in many hearts.

"I thought it was amazing," said freshman Alyssa Hodson. "They played extremely well. It was very relaxing."

The Quintet played many Christmas compositions ranging from *Christmas Oratorio* to *March of the Toys* and even *Silver Bells*. At the end of the concert, all were invited to grab a candle, walk, and carol with everyone else down the Christmas tree guided path to the courtyard in front of the Student Community Center, where the manger and the giant Christmas tree are located.

"It was amazing, and I was excited when everyone was lined up with their candles. All I could hear in my head was a high pitched squeal," said an excited freshman, Meahgan Jameyson.

Gatherers sung around the Christmas tree as everyone waited in anticipation for the main event: the tree lighting. Then, it finally happened. They lit the tree, and the bright and vibrant colors filled the eyes of many. The tree was quite remarkable.

"I thought it was a unique twist to introduce Christmas to Saint Leo," said Hodson.

Along with the tree lighting, all of the other Christmas lights around the school were lit as well. Directly to the left of the student center were lighted scenes of carolers, presents, and toy soldiers. All of the palm trees leading to the student activity center were lit with white golden lights. Saint Leo University was aglow with its own little winter wonderland.

Leadership conference discusses decisions

BY BRANDY SCAGLIONE
Lions' Pride Staff Photographer

Photograph by Brandy Scaglione
Andrea Mosely speaking to students at the Leadership Conference.

This year's Student Leadership Conference was both pleasurable as well as memorable because of the keynote speaker.

Even before the conference had actually begun, the day's keynote speaker, Andrea Mosley, sat down with students, introducing herself and making small talk. After a brief introduction given by Shaji Varughese, Mosley took the podium.

Students could tell within seconds that Mosley was not the typical motivational speaker. She did not walk up to the podium, but instead had a theme song played as she sang and danced her way through the crowd. She then told students about her luck at the car dealership and how she ended up with a convertible instead of a normal sedan for her trip to Saint Leo. After a few more sarcastic quips, Mosley changed her tone to one of sincerity.

Soon students found out the reason Mosley was talking to them. She realized in her youth she made some dire mistakes and that the consequences of her actions, though in the form of her loving little boy, were still very much apparent. Mosley became pregnant at an early age and did not want to come to terms with the predicament. Up until her son, Tyron, was 3, Mosley confessed she had not been emotionally available as a mother. She remembered the exact moment she realized she needed to grow up.

Mosley was around 20, and her friends called her one night. A massive party was about to begin, and Mosley's friends wanted her come with them. Believing her mother would watch Tyron, she agreed to go out with her friends. Upon asking her mother, who almost always had time to watch Tyron, Mosley found out that Tyron had no babysitter. That night her son incessantly cried in his crib. Mosley was resentful and ignored young Tyron. Realizing she had had enough of Tyron's ear piercing screams, she quickly picked Tyron up and threw him back into his crib. Realizing instantly the wrongness of her actions and feeling the guilt for taking her anger out on little Tyron, Mosley had an epiphany; it was time to grow up and accept the consequences of her decision.

At the present, Mosley has traveled around the world speaking about three key topics titled: *Decisions*, *3C²*, and *Wait Training*. Saint Leo students heard the first two of these speeches fully while hearing the last one quite unexpectedly.

Decisions was an hour long speech in which Mosley took the word decisions and created the acronym Determination, Energy, Courage, Intuition, Serious, Imagination, Open, Never give up, and Success.

Mosley's second speech, titled *3C²* , was about an hour long and related the words control, cost, and change. Control is the power to direct or determine how one can exercise authoritative roles over one another. Cost is the value of what

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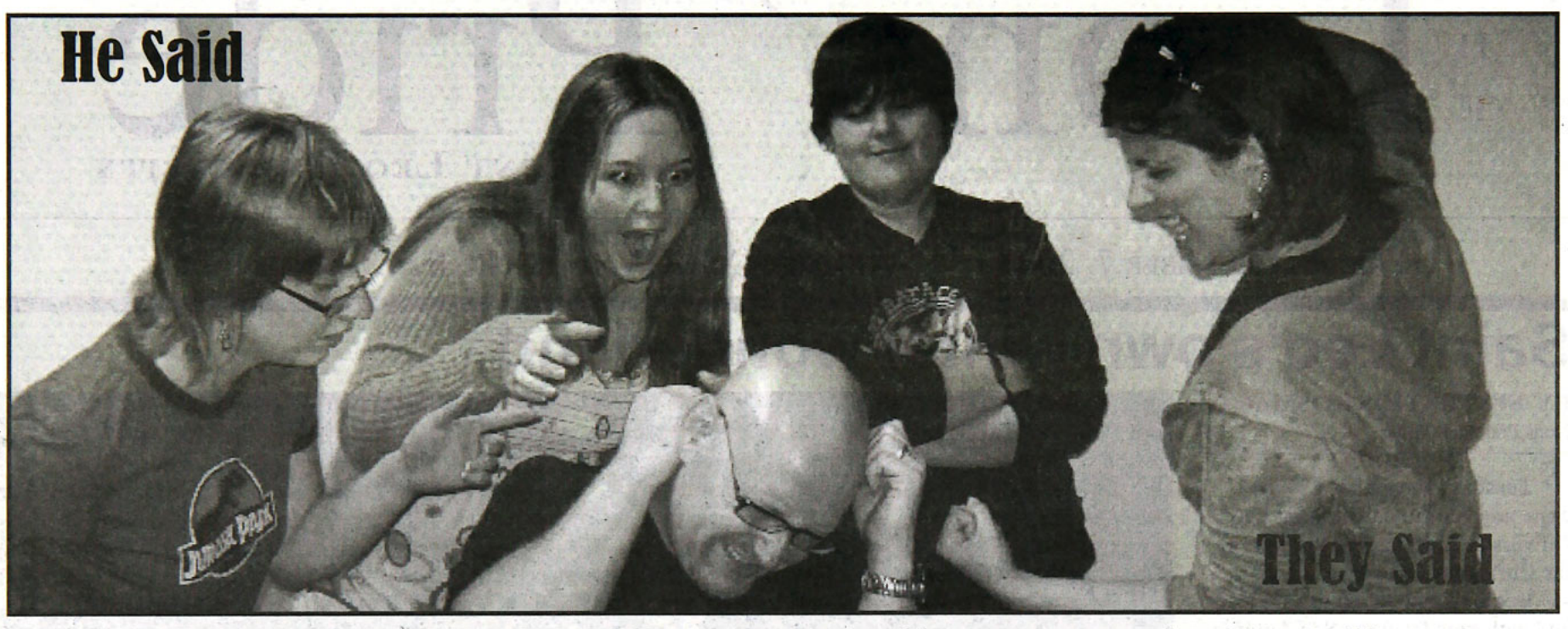
Opinions



The Dissenting Opinion

BY JOSHUA M. SMITH
Lions' Pride Online Editor

Even though all of my fellow editors are backing Hillary Clinton, I like to believe there are at least one or two Republicans out there on campus other than myself, so I thought I'd share with you the Republican candidate I am backing during the primaries. This man may not be getting *The Lions' Pride* endorsement, but he is definitely getting mine.

There is only one Republican candidate who I've been able to get excited about, and that candidate is former Arkansas governor Mike Huckabee. He has risen from the obscurity of the second tier in the race and is now, as of this writing, leading in the Iowa polls. Another recent poll shows Huckabee beating Hillary Clinton by the widest margin of any of the Republican candidates. He has risen to the top not by spending huge amounts of money but through the power of his conservative record and his personal charisma.

Mike Huckabee's signature issue is his desire to eliminate the I.R.S. and replace the current overly complex tax code with the Fair Tax. The Fair Tax is a consumption tax, essentially a sales tax on items you buy. Under the Fair Tax, workers would keep 100% of the money they earn at work, and investors would keep 100% of the profit they earn from their investments. It's time to stop punishing people who work hard by taking more of their money away. The Fair Tax accomplishes this while still providing plenty of money for the government.

Mike Huckabee is pro-life. He would appoint Supreme Court justices who are strict constructionists. Huckabee supports the right of American citizens to keep and bear arms, as guaranteed by the Second Amendment. He supports securing our borders and ending illegal immigration; he is against amnesty for illegals. Huckabee believes fighting the War on Terror is vital to protecting our country from Islamic terrorists.

Beyond the issues, Mike Huckabee is a genuinely nice guy, and he is very articulate and charismatic. If you have seen him in any of the recent debates, you know exactly what I mean. Huckabee is the only man among the Republicans who doesn't stumble when he speaks, backpedal when challenged, and flip-flop on issues important to conservatives. He is an ordained Baptist minister, which some would consider a bad thing, but even agnostics have said that he is the kind of guy they'd actually be willing to talk to about religion because he doesn't use it to talk down to people of other beliefs.

This endorsement wouldn't be complete if I didn't mention another endorsement Huckabee has received, which came from none other than Chuck Norris. As you all know, Chuck Norris doesn't endorse; Chuck Norris tells America how it's going to be. If you haven't seen the video of Chuck Norris endorsing Mike Huckabee, you should definitely check it out. Just do a Google search for "HuckChuckFacts" and hit the "I'm Feeling Lucky" button. You'll love it.

Consider casting your primary vote for Mike Huckabee, a solid, principled conservative who is prepared to beat Hillary Clinton next November and lead our country forward.

Ode to our lady Clinton

BY KATIE GAISER & KRISTIN BRITTAIN
Lions' Pride Layout Editor
Lions' Pride Editor in Chief

From the minute Hillary Clinton announced her candidacy for the 2008 presidential elections, the American population has been spilt between those who hate her and those who love her. Although we, the ladies of *The Lions' Pride* editorial staff, are not particularly in love with any candidate in this election, we would like to endorse Clinton for her positive outlook and ideas for making this country a better place for us all.

As a United States senator for almost seven years, Clinton has done a lot for the benefit of many Americans. Throughout her career, she has focused on improving healthcare, enforcing voting rights, restoring homeland security funding, making HIV and AIDS treatment more available, and expanding job opportunities. She serves on a variety of committees, including the Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee, the Special Committee on Aging, and the Environment and Public Works Committee.

As the first New Yorker to serve on the Senate Armed Services Committee, Clinton cares a great deal about the men and women serving in Iraq. According to *USA Today*, the Bush Administration spent $368 billion dollars in war costs this year alone. Furthermore, there are still thousands of American troops serving overseas, and more and more are going every day. Clinton plans to stop the spending and bring the troops home by enacting the Iraq Troop Protection & Reduction Act of 2007. This act provides an alternative strategy to stabilize Iraq so American troops can redeploy back home. This act will surely comfort thousands of American families waiting for their loved ones to return home safe.

Another one of Clinton's biggest concerns is expanding healthcare coverage to all citizens. According to her website, 46 million Americans currently residing in the US have no health coverage whatsoever. Many of these people are hard working citizens who don't make enough to afford the staggering prices of insurance policies. Clinton recognizes this and proposes the solution of allowing uninsured citizens the right to buy into existing policies. Lowering administration costs in the medical system will also help redirect funds to problems in the system including insuring those who cannot insure themselves. This will allow many uninsured people the chance to have the same benefits as those who simply make enough to support themselves.

Although we are aware Clinton may not be the most popular choice of the Democratic candidates, she is certainly the strongest in her efforts to make this country better for Americans. Backpedaling, issue straddling, and faltering are not in her nature. Her personality should have nothing to do with her ability to do her job. While Josh makes some good points with his faith in Mike Huckabee, the man simply does not have the open mind, attitude, and drive to lead the people like Clinton naturally does. So before making a decision for this election, try to put aside previous opinions of Clinton and look at all she's done for the American people. Who knows, she might surprise us all.

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Candidate Corner

BY KRISTIN BRITTAIN
Lions' Pride Editor in Chief

BY JOSHUA M. SMITH
Lions' Pride Online Editor

This issue concludes *The Lions' Pride's* series of prrofiles on the presidential candidates who will be on the ballot for Florida's presidential primary on January 29. The candidates' platforms are no way an inflection of the opinions of the staff; it is our goal to provide an objective overview of each candidate for the people on campus.

Hillary Clinton

Hilary Clinton has been representing New York in the U.S. Senate since 2000. As senator, one of her biggest concerns is homeland security, and she serves as a leader on national security issues. She is a member of the Senate Armed Services Committee, and has introduced legislation to track the troop's health; she fought to provide compensation to the victims and the families affected by 9/11.

As a former first lady, Clinton is constantly under scrutiny. She has been a front runner in most of the recent polls conducted by ABC News and the American Research Group. Clinton is running on a strong platform of strengthening the middle class, fixing America's healthcare crisis, strengthening America's democracy, and child welfare.

John McCain

John McCain is a former U.S. Navy pilot. Shot down over North Vietnam in 1967, McCain suffered more than five years of brutal treatment as a prisoner of war. He served as a U.S. congressman for Arizona from 1983-1987, and he served as a U.S. senator for Arizona.

John McCain has earned the title "maverick" from the press for years of independent thinking, which often led him to butt heads with members of his own party. He fought unsuccessfully for a comprehensive solution to the immigration problem, which drew much criticism; he also disagreed with former Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld's execution of the Iraq War. McCain presents himself as a true conservative and as someone who has the clout necessary to beat the Democrats in 2008 and then work with them as president.

Bill Richardson

Bill Richardson served in the U.S. congress in 1982 for 14 years before becoming the current governor of New Mexico in 2002. He helped create more than 80,000 new jobs, and unemployment in New Mexico is the lowest it has ever been in 30 years. Because of Richardson's efforts, New Mexico now offers health insurance to every child under five years old, and the minimum wage has increased.

Currently, Richardson is standing very low in the polls, averaging around two to seven percent of the votes. If elected to office, Richardson supports an immediate withdrawal of the troops from Iraq, a revolution on America's abuse of energy usage, and increasing border control.

Fred Thompson

Fred Thompson served as a U.S. senator from Tennessee from 1994-2002. Prior to that, he worked as a lawyer, lobbyist, and Hollywood actor.

Thompson delayed his entry into the race for the Republican nomination to take advantage of the buzz created by media speculation over his candidacy. Now that he has joined the race, some conservatives have been under whelmed by his performance. However, Thompson has certifiable conservative credentials, having received high marks through his years as a senator from conservative and Right to Life organizations. Thompson is one of the top tier candidates in polls of Iowa and New Hampshire but trails Rudy Giuliani in national polls.

Dennis Kucinich

Former mayor of Cleveland, Ohio, Congressman Dennis Kucinich was elected in 1996 to the U.S. House of Representatives. In Congress, Kucinich was part of legislation to preserve social security, create a Department of Peace, repeal the USA Patriot Act, and to provide tax relief to working class families.

This is Kucinich's second bid for presidency, and currently he is finishing last in the polls. Kucinich is the only Democrat running for president who has voted against authorizing the war in Iraq and against funding its continuation. He believes in a universal healthcare system and in strengthening social security.

Mitt Romney

Mitt Romney is a former governor of Massachusetts. He is a member of the Mormon Church.

Romney is very well spoken and is a passionate advocate of conservative values. However, his current views are in contrast with views he held as little as two years ago. His views are solidly in line with the conservative base of the Republican Party, but it remains to be seen if he can get past what some critics say is a tendency to flip-flop on the issues for political expediency. Romney is currently leading the New Hampshire primary polls, and until just recently, led the Iowa polls as well.

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must be done to attain goals, which include money, time, labor, and effort. Change is the act, process of result of modification. Mosley wanted students to recognize the 3 C's and apply them to the world around them as well as their individual worlds.

As informative as these speeches were, throughout the day the room began to get more and more stale. Students were zoning out and Mosley could sense that. Her speech was coming to a close, and she still had more time to fill.

Mosley then asked for 12 volunteers to come up and stand in front of the room. She gave each of these volunteers a laminate card. On each card was a different form of affection, like hand-to-hand or hand-to-face contact. Then, Mosley asked all the volunteers to discuss and come up with an order in which society would view a normal relationship speed to be. In the end, students felt the first interaction two people should make was eye-to-body, when one person notices another. Somewhere in the middle were actions like hand-to-face and hand-to-chest. Towards the end were more sexually explicit actions.

All during this speech, the room was more lively and interactive. At the same time, tensions were also forming. Mosley then asked six of the 12 volunteers to put down their cards. The six actions left were the ones Mosley felt youths currently tend to do in relationships. The first being eye-to-body, somewhere in the middle was hand-to-face, but very soon after were the sexually explicit cards. Mosley then stated she believed young people tend to get into physical relationships before fully exploring their emotional connections.

Soon after this statement, Mosley brought out a brown paper bag and took out a small but familiar package: a condom. The room expressed one of two reactions: surprise followed by laughter or surprise followed by silence. Mosley stated that if youths still intend to engage in casual sex acts, she recommended the use of a condom for protected sex.

The Student Government Union (SGU) had to quickly rectify the situation. Though SGU let Mosley finish her speech, they certainly had a quick talk with her afterwards.

Ana DiDonato of Student Involvement had this to say about Mosley's unexpected speech:

"We have certain discussions with speakers whenever they're going to talk about relationships because we are a Catholic school, and we have our values system and beliefs and things that can and cannot be talked about. There are just certain rules that we do to keep our Catholic values and traditions. So whenever we have people come and talk about some of those touchy subjects, we always have a briefing with them and say this is what you can and cannot talk about. With Mosley, it was never supposed to be."

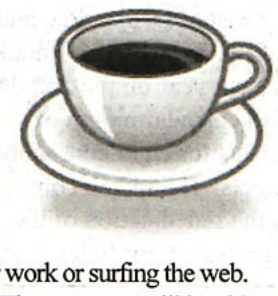
SGU only contracted Mosley to talk about decision-making and time management advice, not her *Wait Training* speech.

"We were kind of surprised when she did use it (the condom) as a prop. I think she realized by the audience's reaction that 'Oh, maybe I shouldn't have done that.'" And immediately after, she just ran up to us and apologized."

Mosley told SGU she didn't even think about the fact that Saint Leo, being a Catholic school with conservative views on birth control, may be upset by her last speech.

DiDonato and SGU felt that "we have to support the university, its mission, its values and that being said, what occurred at our program should not have happened."

Cannon Memorial Library plans for coffee shop addition



BY ALYSSA CLOUTIER
Lions' Pride Staff Writer

Most students find themselves waiting until the last minute to go to the library and finish the paper they had been putting off. A new addition to Saint Leo University's Cannon Memorial Library, however, may be making any given student's stay a little bit more enjoyable.

An interview with Director of Library Services, Brent Short, revealed the new plans for a sort of coffee shop addition to the first floor of the library. With the goal of completion in the beginning of the second semester, students may have something to look forward to. Short described the plans for an area that is the current location of the index tables to be transformed into an area where students can responsibly enjoy a cup of coffee. Not only can this be a place where students can casually gather, but there are plans to have smart board instructions and additional power plugs installed as well. This way, students can sit and drink their coffee while still completing their work or surfing the web.

The new area will be able to accommodate a good amount of students. With the addition of more furniture, including more comfortable love seats and chairs, the environment will definitely be more inviting. Of course, students are expected to remain respectful and responsible.

"Our experience is that the students are responsible," Short explains.

Students should also remember, as well, that the library is still a working environment.

Though the last thing on students' minds is coming back in January after the holiday break is over, this new coffee addition to the library should get students a little more excited. It will give students a chance to take a break from that last minute paper they are writing, or even sip on some coffee while they are writing it. And really, who can argue with a free cup of joe?

Children of Eden: a huge success

BY KATIE GAISER
Lions' Pride Layout Editor

This year's University Ministry's production of *Children of Eden* was a hit amongst audiences, leaving few eyes dry and many hearts touched.

Written by Stephen Schwartz, *Children of Eden* is a two act production of parent- child relationships depicted through the first nine chapters of Genesis. The play starred eleven of Saint Leo's finest actors and vocalists, children from a neighboring dance studio, as well as Vice President of Admissions Gary Bracken. Director Melissa Hollis did an amazing job casting and guiding her actors. Her hard work was evident throughout the show.

In Act One, Bracken, who played the role of Father, provided a believable and touching connection with each of the actors, known as the children of Eden. Stars Amy Persuad and Andrew Strazi lit up the stage with their astounding performances as Father's first children, Adam and Eve. Stunning as always, Persuad amazed audiences with her beautiful voice, which engulfed the theater many times throughout the night. Strazi provided a powerful stage presence, proving once again his ability to capture the audience's attention.

Photograph by Brandy Scaglione
Eve (Amy Persaud), about to meet her maker, instructs the Children of Eden.

Playing the roles of the snake that tempted Eve, actors Cari Faicco, Mary Major, Sarah Holz, Matthew McGowan, and Nevin Baker entertained audiences with their smooth voices and a notable dance performance that left many amused.

Finally, as the roles of Adam and Eve's children, actors Nevin Baker and Adam Wethington, impressed many with their superior and heart-wrenching performances as the first grandchildren of Father. Leaving many eyes watery, Wethington shocked audiences with his powerful voice and passionate portrayal of Cain, Adam and Eve's oldest son. Baker's performance appealed to many with his heart-warming innocence and compassion.

After a short intermission, the cast was back on stage for Act Two. For this half of the play, everyone's roles shifted. As Noah and Mama Noah, Strazi and Persuad amused audiences with their parts as the concerned parents of Shem, Ham, and Japheth. Wethington shined once again in the role of Japheth, the rebellious son determined to be with the love of his life. Playing Japheth's love interest, Holz shined with her beautiful voice and warm stage presence. With amazing chemistry and a steamy kiss, the pair provided a heart-warming representation of a forbidden love.

Although this was only the Drama Ministry²s second production, the cast and crew provided a professional theatrical atmosphere with stage, set, and sound. In just a few days, the crew managed to do everything from building the stage to placing the lights, speakers, and other equipment for the show. Without their hard work and devotion, the production certainly could not have been.

From dazzling dance moves and extraordinary music to an aesthetically pleasing ambiance, *Children of Eden* was a big success that few will forget. Everyone involved did an amazing job creating this masterpiece of a performance. With the show coming to a close, audiences can only look forward to what next year will bring.

Celebrate good times in December

BY AMANDA CAIN
Lions' Pride Staff Writer

With December already here, many people are gearing up for the hustle and bustle this month always brings with it, and although Christmas is the most popular holiday celebrated in the United States, there are a few others that deserve as much recognition.

Hanukkah (December 5-12, 2007): Also known as the Festival of Lights, the Feast of Dedication, and the Feast of the Maccabees, Hanukkah begins each year on the 25th day of the Jewish calendar month of Kislev and lasts for eight consecutive days and nights. Hanukkah commemorates the rededication of the Temple of Jerusalem by Judas Maccabee in 165 BC after the Temple had been seized and dedicated to the worship of the Greek god Zeus. The most symbolic and important tradition of Hanukkah is the menorah, which symbolizes the burning light in the temple and the eight days of celebration. The menorah is a candle stand with nine branches; one stands taller in the middle, called the "shamash" and is used to light the other eight on each night of the holiday.

Kwanzaa (December 26, 2007-January 1, 2008): In a celebration of the African American people, their history, and their culture, Kwanzaa is a non-religious seven-day festival of community and reflection. Each evening, the youngest child in the family lights candles in a special red, black, and green (the colors of the Bendera or African flag) candleholder called the Kinara. One of the seven principles of Kwanzaa (unity, self-determination, collective work and responsibility, cooperative economics, purpose, creativity, and faith) is then discussed. On the sixth day, which falls on New Year's Eve, friends and family gather to enjoy a large feast in indication and commemoration of their culture.

Christmas (December 25, 2007): In the Western world, the birthday of Jesus Christ has been celebrated on December 25 of each year since AD 354. More than 400 million people take part in observance of Christmas day. A few of the more popular traditions include Christmas stockings and trees, mistletoe, candy canes, Rudolph, Christmas lights, and, of course, Santa Claus. Christmas is celebrated differently all over the world, and the majority of Americans celebrate Christmas with the exchange of gifts and greetings and with family visits. For many, the day begins on Christmas Eve with the Midnight Mass.

The fall and winter seasons are typically felt by most as the busiest times of the year. With friends and family reuniting all over the world in recognition of several different winter traditions, it's no secret that holiday spirit is never stronger than in the month of December.

Information obtained from history.com. Christmas-time.com, and santa.net.

Parking improves on campus

BY SIMONE WILLIAMS
Lions' Pride Assisstant Editor

On-campus parking has gotten a bit easier for the multitude of students, faculty, and staff who drive at Saint Leo.

There are now approximately 1200 parking spaces on campus, and that's not including the 50 handicap spaces. Campus security has confirmed that they are giving out fewer tickets now than they were while construction was going on.

"Lot two really helped," said Director of Campus Safety Jerome Helton, gesturing towards the Alumni parking lot. "And the post office parking lot helped, too."

The biggest problem campus security faces is the fact that some students still don't have decals. Helton said it is the main reason why students are still getting tickets.

Though there are less tickets being given out, some students are still upset.

"I'm outraged. We have the most students on campus now than ever. I know that they have some form of plan coming into effect for campus," said sophomore class president, Steven Cronis, "but when will that be? The University should have an abundance of space. Parking shouldn't really be an issue. We need to utilize the land we have to convenience students, staff, and everyone else on campus."

The plan Cronis referred to has to do with the Student Government Union (SGU). Secretary Lauren Tello has formed a parking committee with a few other senators in SGU. The point of the committee is to establish a close relationship with campus security and come up with a solution that will quell student protests while still adhering to campus safety rules.

"They've been meeting with Ken," Helton said.

Kenneth Posner is the executive director of Residence Life and Campus Safety at Saint Leo. Helton confirmed that Tello and Posner have been meeting, but does not know what they have discussed. Tello was unavailable for comment.

More parking spaces are not the only benefit of the refurbished parking lots.

"It's easier for pedestrians," said freshman Neil Clarke in reference to the overall feel of the parking lots.

There are now more walkways, a better flow of traffic with the round-about, and the campus has more aesthetic value.

"I feel like the campus now looks more like a university and more prestigious. It's easier to get around and it's pretty to look at. I think overall it looks good," said freshman Tamar Daly.

All the work done on campus has truly been an improvement. With the near-end of the construction in the parking lots, Saint Leo University is seeing better days.

Unload your backpack and sell those books back

BY JIMMI MUCCILLI
Lions' Pride Staff Writer

The campus bookstore is now buying back used textbooks from the fall semester of 2007.

As the school year is coming to an end, some students don't know what to do with the books they have bought for their classes. Usually, students would just let them collect dust on a bookshelf, or sell them to friends for a little extra change. Well, let it be known it is possible to sell them back at the campus bookstore. Yes, that place that sells books to students for mass amounts of money lets them get some money back for the books they pay for.

The best time for the bookstore to start buying back books is around exam time. This is the time when the school receives notice of the new editions that are coming out for the following year. Although the bookstore has certain dates for book buybacks (December 3 through December 5 for this semester), it does accept books throughout the year. This is so students who drop classes in the middle of the semester aren't stuck with unneeded books. As such, students can feel free to stop by and resell their books at any given time.

Some may question how this process works, though it is simple. Book payment is based upon a professor's text adaptation for the upcoming semester. The bookstore takes advances from the instructors who know what text they are going to use for the next semester. This is done to decide whether or not to give money back to the students for the books. The professors tell the bookstore how many students are going to be in the class and what particular text the instructor wants to use for the following semester. They also go to the company to see if they are updating the books for the next semester. If the bookstore doesn't need the particular book, it goes to a wholesale company. From there, the price is made up based on what the company is willing to sell.

To the first 20 people who bring a book in, the bookstore reimburses half the original price. If it is a new book, students get half of the new book price. If it is used, students get half of the used book price. If the bookstore doesn't need the book, then it is the students to keep forever. However, the bookstore employees will try to look up the book and see if it is possible to give money to the student. If they don't accept the book back at first, students should hold onto it because they might want the book the following semester. Another good thing to know is that the bookstore may still buy a textbook back even if it came from somewhere else. Students taking online classes that require a textbook might also be able to sell the book at the store.

All that is needed to receive money in return for the textbooks is a student ID. This is so the bookstore employees can track stolen textbooks. All a student has to do if he or she has a stolen textbook is tell the staff something unique about that particular textbook. In doing this, students can get their book back and get their money for the book.

The bookstore doesn't have a limit on how many books students can sell back. The employees ask only that the books have most of their pages and that said pages aren't stuck together. Water damaged books and workbooks which have the answers in them will not be accepted. All the bookstore staff asks of students who decide to sell their books back is to give return the books in the same condition they would like to buy them in. Students can sell their textbooks any time from now until the end of the semester.

EXAM SCHEDULE

Monday December 10	Tuesday December 11	Wednesday December 12	Thursday December 13
8:20am - 10:00am *(MWF 8:00am Class) (MWF 8:30am Class)*	**8:00am - 10:00am** *(TR 8:00am Class)*	**8:20am - 10:00am** *(MWF 9:30am Class)*	**8:00am - 10:00am** *(TR 9:30am Class)*
10:10am - 11:50am *(MWF 10:30am Class)*	**10:10am - 12:10pm** *(TR 11:00am Class)*	**10:10am - 11:50am** *(MWF 11:30am Class)*	**10:10am - 12:10pm** *(TR 12:30pm Class)*
11:50am - 12:50pm *(Break)*	**12:15pm - 1:15pm** *(Break)*	**11:50am - 12:50pm** *(Break)*	**12:15pm - 1:15pm** *(Break)*
12:50pm - 2:30pm *(MWF 12:30pm Class)*	**1:15pm - 3:15pm** *(TR 2:00pm Class)*	**12:50pm - 2:30pm** *(MWF 1:30pm Class)*	**1:15pm - 3:15pm** *(TR 3:30pm Class)*
2:40pm - 4:20pm *(MWF 2:30pm Class)*		**2:40pm - 4:20pm** *(MWF 3:30pm Class)*	**3:15PM – 5:15PM** *(TR 4:30pm Class)*
		4:30pm - 6:10pm *(MWF 4:00pm Class) (MWF 4:30pm Class)*	

FALL 2007

Photography by Kristin Brittain
Sophomore Kristen Moultrie looks at "Growing up in Florida" by SLU student Adrienne Hughes.

Saint Leo University Art Show

BY KRISTIN BRITTAIN
Lions' Pride Editor-in-Chief

The lobby in Saint Edward's Hall was transformed into a miniature art gallery on Thursday, November 15 as students and faculty enjoyed an art reception held to commence the beginning of the student exhibit.

Every semester, an art show is held to showcase the best efforts created by the students of Saint Leo's art and photography classes. Many interesting black and white photographs lined the left side of the room, while the right was adorned with a mixture of drawings and paintings.

This fall semester's art show had a very good turnout. There were lots of people shuffling around as they made their way from paintings to drawings and then to photographs.

"I think it is beautiful. I wanted to see the student's work, so I came," said freshman Jeraldine Guaba.

At the reception attendees, enjoyed light snacks as the Saint Leo string quartet, consisting of students, played beautifully in the background.

"It is really fun to see Saint Leo students' artistic works highlighted. The music is fantastic; I really enjoy it," said Dr. Stan McGahey.

Saint Edward gallery never looked so bright and welcoming. This semester's art show was an aesthetically pleasing experience. The artwork was well-received. All of the attendees had a great time while celebrating the creative arts of Saint Leo's students.

Photography by Kristin Brittain
Saint Leo's string quartet plays from the enjoyment of the crowd.

Have a safe and happy holiday break!

Arts & Entertainment

Writers Guild Strike a huge hassle for all involved

BY MICHEAL DOWDAL
Lions' Pride Staff Writer

On November 5, both the Writers Guild of America East (WGAE) and the Writers Guild of America West (WGAW), collectively known as the WGA, went on a combined strike against the Alliance of Motion Picture and Television Producers (AMPTP) over several contract disputes.

Every three years, the contract of the WGA is renewed. However, this year contract negotiations between the WGA and AMPTP failed as a number of conditions set by the WGA were unmet. As a result, the WGA collectively went on strike indefinitely until their demands are met.

The focus of the strike is the antiquated formulas for the payment of various media types. The WGA referred back to their previous strike in 1988, which cost the industry a total of $500,000,000, for support. The previous strike was similar to the current strike insomuch that the 1988 strike concerned the lack of pay for VCR residuals; the same issue has come up this year as a result of the lack of pay for DVD residuals.

Another source of contention is so-called "New Media," which refers to other methods of viewing content, like the internet, Podcasts, and the like. To this point, there have been no provisions established on the amount of compensation the writers should receive for sales made over the internet. Currently, the AMPTP has refused, allegedly stating that there is "no money in the internet."

The final issue of the strike regards Reality Television and Animated programs: as with the "New Media" issue, there have been no established provisions for either of these mediums. With animation, there is currently a conflict between the WGA and the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees (IATSE, also known as the Animation Guild) as to which union is really responsible for the creation of animated features. In the case of several animated features lately, the basis of the entire storyboard has begun by a writer creating a script, which was then converted into a storyboard. The WGA now claims they should be compensated for the creation of the animation as well, though the Animation Guild staunchly opposes this.

In the case of Reality TV, the argument has often been leveled based on the supposed "reality" that there isn't a specific need for writers.

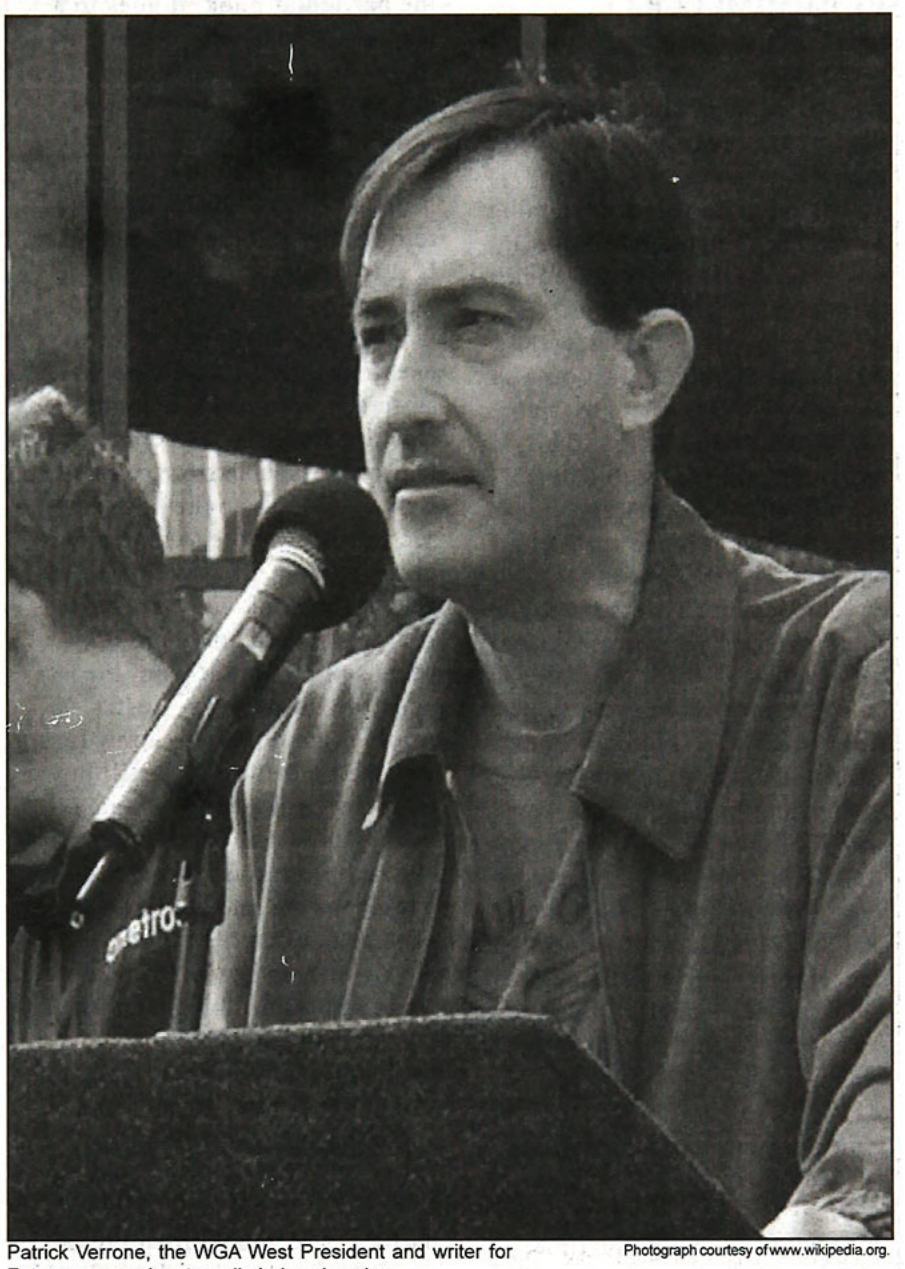
"I don't even understand why they want credit for reality shows," sophomore Jason Jones said. "Isn't it supposed to be unscripted?"

The most obvious immediate implication of the strike is the immediate hiatus of several shows, including *The Daily Show with John Stewart*, *The Colbert Report*, and *Saturday Night Live*. Production has been halted indefinitely, as those shows were timely and therefore required writing for the week ahead, meaning there were no previously written scripts on reserve for the show. They have since been replaced by re-runs.

"I'm really upset, because I always watch the *Daily Show* and *Colbert Report* and now I can't see them. I wish they'd fix this soon so I can watch them again," stated freshman Richard Burns.

Another lasting implication is the future of several other shows. In the case of some shows, the entire season wasn't completed by the time of the strike, leaving a majority of episodes, but not the complete show. *The Office* ceased production, with one unfinished script left in its current season. *Scrubs*, which is in its final season, may be unable to air its final six episodes. Show creator Bill Lawrence stated in an interview that the final episodes may be released over the internet or on DVD.

"I'm really not cool with this strike," freshman Lynn Davis said. "I can't believe I won't get to see the final episode of *Scrubs*!"



Patrick Verrone, the WGA West President and writer for Futurama, speaks at a rally in Los Angeles.

Photograph courtesy of www.wikipedia.org.

Other popular shows that are directly affected are *Heroes*, *Nip/Tuck*, *30 Rock*, and several others. Shows such as *Cavemen* and *Carpoolers* did not have their seasons completed, but may have been cancelled, as they were pulled almost immediately after the strike. For *Heroes*, a back-up plan calls for an upcoming episode to be used as an improvised season finale, until the rest of the episodes are created and are able to be aired on TV. In the case of *30 Rock*, lead writer and actress Tina Fey refused to cross the picket line in a show of solidarity with the picketing Guild members.

The last effect of this strike is for upcoming shows. Shows like *Prison Break* and *Lost* are only mid-way through the writing process, and future seasons may be off-schedule as they may be forced to only air a half-season instead of their full season next year. Shows such as *The Rý¢hes* and *Dirt* are currently on a permanent hiatus and may be skipped over completely this next season, as they are nearing their production date and have not yet been written.

As is the case with Tina Fey, many stars and famous actors have expressed support for the strike, and have even gone so far as to picket with the striking writers. As stated earlier, *The Office* ceased production with one unfinished script. A large part of this halt in production was due to several of its stars refusing to cross the picket line (star Steve Carell was a writer for the beginning part of his career). More than 50 documented actors have been reported to be picketing, as well as a public outpour of support from several other stars. David Letterman has been said to be paying his writers out of his own pocket throughout the end of the year. Robin Williams, when asked of the situation as he picketed with the writers said: "They claim there's no money in the Internet. That's a shell game."

As of press time, negotiations are continuing between the two sides, though a resolution may be imminent. The AMPTP have gone on the record that the conflict will be resolved before Christmas, but talks are continuing to stall. On December 4, before press time, the WGA will announce the results of the latest round of negotiations.

Photograph courtesy of www.wikipedia.org.

Strikers and those supporting the rally raise signs at WGAW in Los Angeles.

Question of the week:

What Can you catch but not throw?

Check out the answer in the next issue! Last issue: What gets wetter and wetter the more it dries? A towel.

Have the answer? Have a question you want to post? Write to us! You could be in the paper! Contact us at: lions.pride@saintleo.edu

The boy who cried *Beowulf*

BY THOMAS SCAGLIONE III
Lions' Pride Staff Writer

The oldest English-written epic is masterfully reincarnated to a new generation of adventure seekers, proving that the fame and glory of Beowulf will truly live forever.

Robert Zemeckis, producer of *Cast Away* (2000) and *Monster House* (2006), delivers a ground breaking reinterpretation of this classic tale of heroism, *wyrd* (fate), temptation, and consequences.

Depicted entirely in Computer-Generated Imaging (CGI), Zemeckis takes the account into another frontier of storytelling. Its universality allows it to leave its humble beginnings as a long, narrative, tavern song to become immortalized in film. This process takes the story off of the dusty bookshelves of English students everywhere and captures the true essence of the Anglo-Saxon beliefs and cultures in such a way that will have J.R.R. Tolkien fans impressed.

In the film, the great warrior Beowulf (Ray Winstone) comes to the aid of the Danish King Hrothgar (Anthony Hopkins) whose people are being plagued by the demon-spawn Grendel (Crispin Glover) and its mother, the desperate-to-survive Sea Hag (Angelina Jolie). He must then overcome his personal struggles in order to defeat a ferocious dragon with all-to-curious origins.

The movie, although legendary in its own right, does change many elements of the written, Old-English story. In order to fully distinguish these differences, I reread *Beowulf* over Thanksgiving Break…after all the turkey did give up his life; a few hours spent reading should be enough to cover its *wergild*.

The film differs from the book by adding an intriguing plot of sexual-exploitation, greed, and lust. Beowulf is stripped of his unwavering fortitude and steadfast morals and is instead characterized as a man with faults and weaknesses. This could have been done to show that the text readers are familiar with is only Beowulf's Song. This song is what hero's of that time lived for because the pagan people of that region did not believe in an afterlife. Instead, they believed people live on through the stories of their heroic accomplishments. In this interpretation, the movie becomes an account of what really happened behind the scenes (accepting their beliefs in dragons and demons as truth); whereas, the manuscript is merely the exaggerated praise of a nonexistent, godlike hero.

The film also gives more back story to the Descendants of Cain (i.e. the Demons) in order to provide their characters depth and personality. For example, Grendel's mother is no longer just a vengeful murderer on the hunt for Beowulf's blood. She is now a temptress of man who fears the extinction of her kind and will do anything (and anyone) to keep her family of monsters alive.

However, it is important to note that the movie producers were mindful in keeping many of the themes of that time present. The rising Christian religion threatens the pagan beliefs of the Anglo-Saxons, and its lingering effects can be seen in how the last manuscript of *Beowulf* (the modern text translations come from) is written from a Christian viewpoint. Viewers are also given mere glances at their lifestyles by the occasional shots of the scops singing the tales of past events in the mead halls, the fascination and importance of names, which were given to their buildings and weapons, the sense of legacy (swords and armor that was passed down through blood lines), and the peculiar burial ceremonies.

The official movie poster for *Beowulf*.
Photograph courtesy of www.beowulfmovie.com

Whether a child fascinated by fantasy worlds, a teen looking for some action and thrills, a fervent student seeking answers, or a devoted fan in quest of that long awaited reunion with your favorite characters, *Beowulf* is sure to leave a lasting impression of both shock and awe (no pun intended).

Released into theatres November 26, 2007, *Beowulf* runs approximately 113 minutes and is rated PG-13 for violence, sexual material, and nudity. But don't fret female readers! The muscular Beowulf has just as many nude scenes as Angelina Jolie's character…ensuring that everyone's eyes are glued to the, ahem, screen!

Avenged Sevenfold's new album is too commercial-friendly

BY MICHEAL DOWDAL
Lions' Pride Staff Writer

The day before Halloween, Avenged Sevenfold released their newest album, the eponymous *Avenged Sevenfold*.

Avenged Sevenfold is the follow-up to the band's 2005 major label debut, *City of Evil*. Their previous albums have seen them gain rising success and critical attention, at the seeming expense of their core fan base. This was a point of contention following their release of *City of Evil*, as many fans lamented the change in Avenged Sevenfold's sound to a cleaner, more radio friendly sound than the thrash metal sound heard on their previous effort, *Waking the Fallen*.

Unfortunately, *Avenged Sevenfold* is privy to the same argument. Many fans have cried out that the sound is even further away from the band's roots, and accusations of "selling out" have been levied.

Junior Alex Higgins stated, "I used to be one of [Avenged Sevenfold's] biggest fans, but I can't even get into their sound now. They're not the same band."

The backlash from die-hard fans doesn't seem to affect sales, though, as the album debuted at number four on the *Billboard 200,* and according to Billboard.com, sold around 94,000 copies in its first week. Billboard.com also claims that *City of Evil* only sold nearly a third of that, at 33,000 copies and a number 30 spot.

Despite the changes in the band's sound, it seems to be working. Avenged Sevenfold are seeing unprecedented levels of success and the album isn't half bad. It tends to drag at points, and their sound is considerably slower than previous efforts, but it's still a great listen if you enjoy hard rock music.

"I don't know what everyone's problem is with this album. I like it a lot better than that garbage they put out a few years ago," said freshman Jasmine Wheeler.

The instrumentation seems to have taken a backseat on this effort, since there is only one song that has a real solo.

Freshman John Doering said, "I got this album expecting some awesome guitar solos. I got ripped off."

The real issue that prevents me from particularly enjoying this album is the lack of stand-out tracks. Sure, "Critical Acclaim" and "Almost Easy" are sitting comfortably on the rock charts, but I haven't found one song that makes the album worth the buy. Listening to a whole album with more-or-less mediocre tracks can be downright boring, which may be a testament to my claim of the album dragging. In fact, the only songs I found that didn't just turn into background music for me were "Scream" and "Afterlife."

I'll go on the record now and predict that "Scream" will be the band's biggest single off of this CD, if they ever choose to release it as a single. As it turns out, "Afterlife" is scheduled to be their next single some time in the New Year. It bears repeating that the album is in no way bad; it just didn't stand out particularly to me.

If you're a big fan of metal, then *Avenged Sevenfold* is right up your alley. If you've been a long-time fan of the band, give the album a listen before making a decision about it. If you aren't into songs about an impending apocalypse, this album is not for you, and neither is Avenged Sevenfold.

Calendar of Events for December and January 2007

Christmas Musical: Night of Alleluias at First Baptist Church, Dade City
Dates: Fri., Dec.7th, Sat., Dec.8th & Sun., Dec. 9th at 7:00 p.m. (2:00 p.m. Matinee on Sat.)
Location: First Baptist Church Sanctuary, 37511 Church Avenue, Dade City
Price and Contact: Admission is free. 352-567-3265

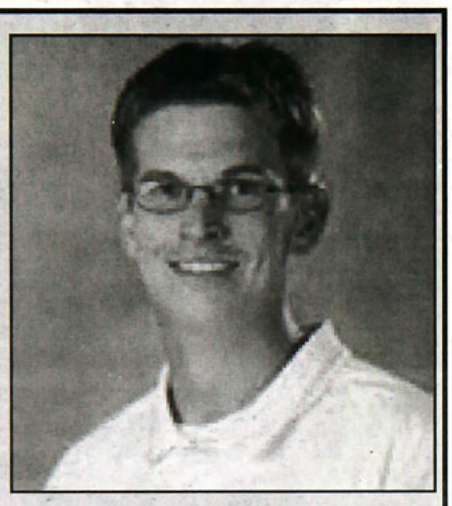
Walk Thru Bethlehem
Dates:Fri., Dec. 7th & Sat., Dec. 8th, at 6:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. Sun. 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Location: Richland Baptist Church
Price and Contact: Free. 352-567-2990

Annual Country Christmas Stroll
Dates: Dec. 8th from 5:00 p.m. - 9:00p.m.
Location: Historic Dade City
Price and Contact: Free. 352-567-0284

11th Annual Kumquat Festival
Dates: Jan. 26th from 9:00a.m. - 5:00p.m.
Location: Downtown Historic Dade City
Price and Contact: Free to attend. Lots of Vendors. 352-567-3769

Sports

Athletic department says so long to a beloved trainer, Brian Davis



Trainer Brian Davis Photo Credit: Mike Carlson

BY AMANDA CAIN
Lions' Pride Staff Writer

After working as an assistant trainer since August, 2005, Brian Davis has accepted another trainer position and will be leaving Saint Leo University.

As a trainer, Davis has looked after the care and well being of all the athletes at Leo. His primary duties include the prevention, recognition and rehabilitation of an athletic related injury. Davis will now be the assistant athletic trainer for Women's Soccer and Baseball at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette.

"I am leaving Saint Leo for a position that will challenge me personally and professionally and for what we believe will provide better opportunities for my wife," said Davis.

Davis is originally from Bastrop, Louisiana. He received his bachelor of science in Health and Exercise Science from Northwestern State University in Natchitoches, Louisiana in 1999. Davis also received his master of science in Education in Sport Management from Baylor University in Waco, Texas in 2002. He worked as a graduate assistant athletic trainer for the women's soccer program during his two years at the University.

Davis' first job was a clinic outreach position in Northwest Indiana at Lake Central High School in Saint John, Indiana. He worked at the high school from 2002 to 2004. Immediately prior to coming to Saint Leo, he was the head athletic trainer for Southern Polytechnic State University in Marietta, Georgia. from 2004 to 2005. Davis and his wife, Stacy, spent a year in the Atlanta area until she completed her internship requirement for her degree (doctorate in Clinical Psychology). Mrs. Davis was looking for a post-doctoral fellowship and that is how they landed in the Tampa area.

Head Trainer Barbara Wilson brought Davis aboard as one of her two new assistants.

"Brian was a great asset to the sports medicine department. He will truly be missed and we wish him the best." reflects Wilson.

In his two and a half years at Leo, Davis feels it was a privilege to spend time with all of the athletes and that his experiences here have truly helped him grow personally.

"I will miss the students and student athletes most when I leave Saint Leo. I think this university and the athletic department finds and recruits great people, which will always make this a very special place to be," said Davis.

After two and a half years, the majority of student athletes at Leo have built a friendship with assistant trainer Brian Davis and we wish him the best of luck.

SAINT LEO SCORES

Men's Basketball	Women's Basketball	
Nov. 17, 2007	Nov. 16, 2007	Nov. 23, 2007
Puerto Rico-Bayamon	Puerto Rico-Rio Piedras	Colorado Christian
W 104-71	W 75-46	L 54-64
Nov. 19, 2007	Nov. 17, 2007	Nov. 24, 2007
Puerto Rico-Cayey	Puerto Rico-Bayamon	Missouri Rolla
W 86-53	W 69-59	L 67-90
Nov. 26, 2007	Nov. 19, 2007	
Southeastern	Puerto Rico-Cayey	
W 79-58	W 88-33	

UPCOMING HOME EVENTS

Men's Basketball	Women's Basketball	Women's Basketball
Dec. 4, 2007	Jan. 5, 2008	Jan. 16, 2008
Florida College	Rollins	Florida Southern
7:30 p.m.	2 p.m.Men's Basketball	5:30 p.m
Men's Basketball	Jan. 5, 2008	Men's Basketball
Dec. 8, 2007	Rollins	Jan. 16, 2008
Flagler	4 p.m.	Florida Southern
4 p.m.	Swimming	7:30 p.m.
Women's Basketball	Jan. 8-9, 2008	Women's Basketball
Dec. 15, 2007	Saint Vincent College	Jan. 19, 2008
West Florida	Swimming	Nova Southeastern
2 p.m.	Jan. 12, 2008	2 p.m.
Men's Basketball	Florida Southern	Men's Basketball
Dec. 17, 2007		Jan. 19, 2008
West Florida		Nova Southeastern
7:30 p.m.		4 p.m.

Team comes together before another win in the beginning of the season. Photo Credit: Mike Carlson

Give 'Prais' : Men's basketball starts season with no losses

BY CAITLIN CRAFT
Lions' Pride Sports Editor

It's that time again, Saint Leo basketball has begun and the men are off to a great start. The Lions have come out very strong in both preseason and the start to their regular season. They won their first three games and mad a dramatic change in scores for their annual battles against University of South Florida and University of Central Florida. With the team's veterans returning, including George Eshesimua who is returning after a year off from a knee injury, the lions hold a good chance of taking it to the house this year.

"We aren't scared of anyone this year. We believe we have the capability to beat everyone," said returning sophomore, Quentin Cullop.

Sophomore, Jordan Prais has had some big games recently. Prais has put up record high points, rebounds, and assists. This is only one of the major contributions that Head Coach Mike Madagan has on his team this year, all of which are growing assets to a season that will take the Lions far.

"I expect to win. I think our team is good enough to win the SSC, and if we keep progressing I'm sure we will be the force to reckon with in the league," said Prais.

But Prais isn't the only one putting the points on the board. It's Quentin time. Stepping out on the court for his second year at Saint Leo, Cullop is right there with Prais as the two of them continue a bond formed last year. They worked well together last year, and they seem to be continuing to do the same this year, only better.

One of the new rising stars to the program is Dusty Driggs, a transfer from the University of New Orleans. Both Cullop and Prais see all the new players, including Driggs, meshing well the rest of the team.

"The new players a gelling well with the team, and Dusty has added a very high three point threat this year," said Prais.

Although the Lions still have a long way to go, they seem to have an idea of how to conquer their next opponents. Organization does seem to be a slight problem; however, the team eventually comes together, and still manages to create high point leads against their opponents. For example, against Southeastern University they were ahead by as much as 23 points.

"We got it kind of easy right now, but I think the team's hard work will make a difference in conference. We'll have to wait and see," said Cullop.

Saint Leo establishes Rugby Club

BY CAITLIN CRAFT
Lions' Pride Sports Editor

From a school in the United Kingdom, where rugby first began, to the fields of Saint Leo University, this rough and tough sport comes pounding into the thriving minds of our students. Recently, Saint Leo has given, senior, Edwin Flores the opportunity to establish his group into a legitimate club.

"Last spring Norlan Saballos asked me to start a Rugby Club to meet that demand since starting a Football program can be economically forbidden for St. Leo," said Edwin Flores, president.

The new club will practice and play against other club teams from bay area schools and universities.

"I'm excited for the prospect of having a set schedule to play other univerities in Division II Rugby, like the University of Miami, Univ. of South Florida, Univ. of North Florida, Florida State University, etc. and being able to have a shot at the playoffs," said Flores.

Flores is a regular Webb Ellis, the original creator of Rugby. He is passionate and encourages his squad to be passionate about the game and as brutal, as physically possible, during the game.

A lot of Saint Leo students have taken advantage of the opportunity that Flores has given them to play the game that they love. Many students, different ages, different backgrounds, many personalities have come together over this memorable sport with valued traditions.

Flores has even given students who have had no experience the opportunity to participate in this club. Coaches who have played in high school/college have made their strategic values available for those players who wish to create their own place in the sport.

"We got positive feedback and incorporated the help of Paul Alexander and together filed the paper work to start the club and conducted recruitment efforts," said Flores.